

Media Contact:

Greg Risling Public Information Officer 213-974-3525 GRisling@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

April 22, 2014

Woman Sentenced to More Than Three Years in Prison For DUI Death of Cyclist

A 21-year-old woman was sentenced today to more than three years in state prison for the death of a cyclist in Boyle Heights last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Shelly Torrealba sentenced Wendy Villegas to three years and eight months in prison.

Last month, Villegas pleaded no contest to one count each of vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, driving under the influence causing injury and leaving the scene of an accident.

Deputy District Attorney Nicholas Swertlow said Villegas was driving home in the early morning hours of Sept. 14, 2013, when she struck a group of cyclists near downtown. Luis "Andy" Garcia, 22, was killed after he was dragged by a following car, the prosecutor said. Two others were injured.

After the collision, Villegas panicked and fled the scene.

The Los Angeles Police Department investigated the case.

###

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.